

Remarks

The Official Action allowed claims 27-34 and 41-44, objected to claims 7-8, 22-26 and 36-39, and rejected claims 1-6, 9-21, 35 and 40. Claims 1-44 remain pending. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-44.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 27-34 and 41-44. Furthermore, Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 7-8, 22-26 and 36-39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant, however, has elected not to rewrite such claims at this time since Applicant believes the claims from which they depend are also allowable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The Official Action rejected claims 1-6, 9-21, 35 and 40 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Knapton, III (US Patent 6,363,486). Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 1-6, 9-21, 35 and 40 be withdrawn in light of the following.

Claims 1 and 10

Each of claims 1 and 10 require requesting tokens to unseal portions of a multi-token sealed object. The Official Action appears to rely on the identifier of the application program and the identifier of the component of Knapton for a teaching of a token. However, the relied upon identifiers appear to be merely strings of bits which are used as values in the process of generating a component password. As

such, unlike the tokens of claims 1 and 10, the identifiers appear to be unable to respond to a request let alone unseal portions of an object in response to a request.

Moreover, each of claims 1 and 10 require obtaining portions from a multi-token. The Official Action appears to rely on the component password 240 of Knapton for a teaching of the multi-token sealed object. However, Knapton appears to provide no teaching regarding obtaining portions from the component password 240. While Knapton teaches generating the component password from an application identifier 230 and a component identifier 236, Knapton appears to provide no teaching regarding obtaining the application identifier 230 and the component identifier 236 from the component password 240. Instead Knapton teaches a controller computer system creating a first component password from the application identifier and the component identifier. An application program on an end user computer system generates a second component password from the application identifier and a received component identifier, and allows use of the component when the first password matches the second password. In other words, Knapton teaches authenticating a component based upon generating a password and determining whether the generated password matches another password.

Since Knapton does not appear to teach requesting tokens to unseal portions of a multi-token sealed object to obtain portions from the multi-token sealed object, Knapton does not anticipate the invention of claims 1 and 10. Withdrawal of the present rejection of claims 1 and 10 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-6, 9 and 11-14

Each of claims 2-6, 9 and 11-14 depend from one of claims 1 and 10. Thus, each of claims 2-6, 9 and 11-14 are allowable for at least reasons similar to those

proffered above for claims 1 and 10. Further, each of claims 2-6, 9 and 11-14 require decrypting something (e.g. second portion, encrypted object, etc.) to obtain an object. Applicant has been unable to locate any teaching in Knapton regarding decryption. Knapton teaches using encryption to generate passwords; however, Knapton does not teach nor does Knapton require decryption in order to determine whether to allow use of a component. Knapton therefore does not anticipate the invention of claims 2-6, 9 and 11-14. Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 2-6, 9 and 11-14 be withdrawn.

Claims 15 and 35

Each of claims 15 and 35 require requesting tokens to seal portions of a multi-token sealed object to environment criteria. The Official Action appears to rely on the identifier of the application program and the identifier of the component of Knapton for a teaching of a token. However, the relied upon identifiers appear to be merely strings of bits which are used as values in the process of generating a component password. As such, unlike the tokens of claims 15 and 35, the identifiers appear to be unable to respond to a request let alone seal portions of a multi-token sealed object to environment criteria.

Further, the Official Action appears to be unclear regarding what teaching in Knapton is being used to meet the environment criteria of claims 15 and 35. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to provide further explanation regarding how Knapton is believed to satisfy the environment criteria of claims 15 and 35.

Since Knapton does not appear to teach requesting tokens to seal portions of a multi-token sealed object to environment criteria, Knapton does not anticipate the

invention of claims 15 and 35. Withdrawal of the present rejection of claims 15 and 35 is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-17 and 20-21

Each of claims 16-17 and 20-21 includes claim 15 as a base claim. Accordingly, each of claims 16-17 and 20-21 is allowable for at least reasons similar to those proffered above for claim 15. Further, each of claims 16-17 and 20-21 requires receiving a sealed key in response to a second token sealing the second portion that comprises a key. Knapton appears to teach generating a component password 240 using an encryption key 232. (See, FIG. 4.) However, the resulting component password 230 is not a sealed key. For example, Knapton does not teach unsealing the component password 230 in order to obtain the encryption key. In fact, it does not appear that the component password 230 includes the encryption key 232. In other words, one could not merely perform an operation on the component password 230 in order to recover the encryption key 232. Applicant respectfully requests the present rejection of claims 16-17 and 20-21 be withdrawn.

Claims 18-19

Each of claims 18-19 includes claim 15 as a base claim. Accordingly, each of claims 18-19 is allowable for at least reasons similar to those proffered above for claim 15. Further, claims 18-19 require receiving sealed portions encrypted by tokens using keys of the tokens. As mentioned above, the Official Action appears to be relying on the identifiers of Knapton for a teaching of tokens. However, Knapton teaches encrypting the identifiers 230, 236 with a key 232 instead of a token encrypting portions using a token's key as required by claims 18-19. Applicant respectfully requests the present rejection of claims 18-19 be withdrawn.

Claim 40

Claim 40 includes claim 35 as a base claim. Accordingly, claim 40 is allowable for at least reasons similar to those proffered above for claim 35. Moreover, claim 40 requires unsealing sealed portions using keys or tokens to provide the portions only if environment criteria are satisfied. As stated above regarding claims 1 and 10, Knapton appears to provide no teaching regarding unsealing. Applicant respectfully requests the present rejection of claim 40 be withdrawn.

Information Disclosure Statements

The Official Action indicated the PTO would sign off the 1449's after the Applicant makes some comments specifying which one(s) of the cited prior art may be helpful to the examination of the application. Applicant believes the submitted information disclosure statements comply with all legal requirements as set forth in the CFR and the MPEP. As such, Applicant believes the Examiner is required to review and sign off on the submitted references without further comment by the Applicant. If the Examiner maintains the present refusal to sign off, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner cite legal precedent (e.g. case law, USC, CFR, MPEP) in support of such a refusal.

Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action. Applicant submits that all remaining claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is requested, and allowance of all remaining claims is earnestly solicited.

Should it be determined that an additional fee is due under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17, or any excess fee has been received, please charge that fee or credit the amount of overcharge to deposit account # 02-2666. If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities which can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at (503) 439-8778 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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